

## OBN

contract, which has rendered them part of the Devil's possession, and contrive how they may *obliterate* that reproach, and disentangle their mortgaged souls. *Decay of Piety.*

These simple ideas, the understanding can no more refuse to have, or alter, or blot them out, than a mirror can refuse, alter, or *obliterate* the images, which the objects set before it produce. *Locke.*

**OBLETATION.** *n. f.* [*obliteratio*, Latin.] Effacement; extinction.

Considering the casualties of wars, transigrations, especially that of the general flood, there might probably be an *obliteration* of all those monuments of antiquity that ages precedent at some time have yielded. *Hale's Origin of Mankind.*

**OBLIVION.** *n. f.* [*oblivio*, Latin.]

1. Forgetfulness; cessation of remembrance.

Water-drops have worn the stones of Troy,  
And blind *oblivion* swallow'd cities up,  
And mighty states characterless are graced  
To dusty nothing. *Shakef. Troil. and Cressida.*

Thou shouldst have heard many things of worthy memory,  
Which now shall die in *oblivion*, and thou return unexperienced  
to thy grave. *Shakef. Taming of the Shrew.*

Knowledge is made by *oblivion*, and to purchase a clear  
and warrantable body of truth, we must forget and part with  
much we know. *Brown's Vulgar Err. Pref.*

Can they imagine, that God has therefore forgot their  
sins, because they are not willing to remember them? Or  
will they measure his pardon by their own *oblivion*. *South.*

Among our crimes *oblivion* may be set;

But 'tis our king's perfection to forget. *Dryden.*

2. Amnely; general pardon of crimes in a state.

By the act of *oblivion*, all offences against the crown, and  
all particular trespasses between subject and subject, were pardoned,  
remitted, and utterly extinguished. *Davies.*

**OBLIVIOUS.** *adj.* [*obliviosus*, Latin.] Causing forgetfulness.

Raze out the written troubles of the brain,  
And with some sweet *oblivious* antidote  
Cleanse the stuff'd bosom. *Shakespeare's Macbeth.*

The British souls

Exult to see the crouching ghosts descend

Unnumber'd; well aveng'd, they quit the cares

Of mortal life, and drink th' *oblivious* lake. *Philips.*

Oh born to see what none can see awake!

Behold the wonders of th' *oblivious* lake. *Pope's Dunc.*

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## OBS

All are *obnoxious*, and this faulty land,  
Like fainting Hester, does before you stand,  
Watching your sceptre. *Wallar.*

We know ourselves *obnoxious* to God's severe justice, and that  
he is a God of mercy and hatred sin; and therefore that we  
might not have the least suspicion of his unwillingness to forgive,  
he hath sent his only begotten son into the world, by  
his dismal sufferings and cursed death, to expiate our offences. *Culamy's Sermons.*

Thy name, O Varus, if the kinder powers  
Preserve our plains, and shield the Mantuan towers,  
*Obnoxious* by Cremona's neighbouring crime,  
The wings of swans, and stronger pinion'd rhyme  
Shall raise aloft. *Dryd.*

3. Liable; exposed.

Long hostility had made their friendship weak in itself,  
And more *obnoxious* to jealousy and distrust. *Hayward.*

But what will not ambition and revenge

Defend to? who aspires, must down as low

As high he soar'd; *obnoxious* first or last,

To basest things. *Milton's Paradise Lost.*

Beasts lie down,

To dew *obnoxious* on the grassy floor. *Dryden.*

**OBNOXIOUSNESS.** *n. f.* [*obnoxius*, Latin.] Subjection; liability

to punishment.

**OBNOXIOUSLY.** *adv.* [*obnoxius*, Latin.] In a state of subjection

to punishment.

To **OBNOXILATE.** *v. a.* [*obnoxilare*, Latin.] To cloud; to

obscure.

**O'BOLE.** *n. f.* [*obolus*, Latin.] In pharmacy, twelve grains. *Boyl.*

**OBRECTION.** *n. f.* [*obreptio*, Latin.] The act of creeping on

To **OBROGATE.** *v. a.* [*obrogare*, Latin.] To proclaim a con-

trary law for the dissolution of the former. *Dia.*

**OBSCENE.** *adj.* [*obscene*, Latin.]

1. Immodest; not agreeable to chastity of mind; causing low

ideas.

Chemos th' *obscene* dread of Moab's sons. *Millem.*

Words that were once chaste, by frequent use grow *obscene*

and uncleanly. *Watts's Logic.*

2. Offensive; disgusting.

A girdle foul with grease binds his *obscene* attire. *Dryden.*

Home as they went, the sad discourse renew'd,

Of the relentless dame to death purfue'd,

And of the fight *obscene* to lately view'd. *Dryden.*

3. Inauspicious; ill omened.

Care shuns thy walks, as at the cheerful light

The groaning ghosts, and birds *obscene* take flight. *Dryd.*

It is the sun's late like your's, to be displeasing to oaks

and *obscene* animals, who cannot bear his lustre. *Pope's Let.*

**OBSCENELY.** *adv.* [*obscene*, Latin.] In an impure and unchaste

manner.

**OBSCENESS.** *n. f.* [*obscenitas*, Latin.] Impurity of

**OBSCENITY.** *n. f.* [*obscenitas*, Latin.] Impurity of

thought or language; unchastity; lewdness.

Mr. Cowley asserts plainly, that *obscenity* has no place in

wit. *Dryden.*

Those fables were tempered with the Italian severity, and

free from any note of infamy or *obscenity*. *Dryden.*

Thou art wickedly devout,

In Tiber ducking thrice by break of day,

To wash th' *obscenities* of night away. *Dryden.*

No pardon vile *obscenity* should find,

Tho' wit and art conspire to move your mind. *Pope.*

**OBSCURATION.** *n. f.* [*obscuration*, Latin.]

1. The act of darkening.

As to the sun and moon, their *obscuration* or change of

colour happens commonly before the eruption of a fiery mountain. *Burton.*

2. A state of being darkened.

**OBSCURE.** *adj.* [*obscurus*, Latin.]

1. Dark; unenlightened; gloomy, hindring light.

Who's curish his father or mother, his lamp shall be put

out in *obscure* darkness. *Prov. xx. 20.*

Who shall tempt with wand'ring feet

The dark unbottom'd infinite abyss,

And thro' the palpable *obscure* find out

His uncouth way? *Milton's Paradise Lost.*

2. Living in the dark.

The *obscure* bird clamour'd the live-long night. *Shakef.*

3. Not easily intelligible; abstruse; difficult.

I explain some of the most *obscure* passages, and those

which are most necessary to be understood, and this according

to the manner wherein he used to express himself. *Dryd.*

4. Not noted; not observable.

He says, that he is an *obscure* person; one, I suppose, that

is in the dark. *Atterbury.*

To **OBSCURE.** *v. a.* [*obscurare*, Latin.]

1. To darken; to make dark.

Sudden the thunder blackens all the skies.

And the winds whistle, and the furies roll

Mountains on mountains, and *obscure* the pole. *Pope.*

2. To

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2. To make less visible.

They are all couched in a pit hard by Herne's oak, with

*obscured* lights; which at the very instant of Falstaff's and

our meeting, they will at once display to the night. *Shakef.*

What must I hold a candle to my flames?

They in themselves, good sooth, are too, too light.

Why, 'tis an office of discovery, love, *Shakef. M. of Venice.*

And I should be *obscured*.

Thinking by this retirement to *obscure* himself from God,

he infringed the omniscience and essential ubiquity of his

maker. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*

3. To make less intelligible.

By private consent it hath been used in dangerous times

to *obscure* writing, and make it hard to be read by others not

acquainted with the intrigue. *Holder.*

There is scarce any duty which has been so *obscured* by the

writings of learned men, as this. *Wake.*

4. To make less glorious, beautiful, or illustrious.

Think'st thou, vain spirit, thy glories are the same,

And feest not now by thy ungrateful pride,

That shows me what thy faded looks did hide. *Dryden.*

5. To make less luminous.

1. Not brightly; not luminously.

2. Out of light; privately; without notice; not conspicuously.

Such was the life of this prodigious fire,

Which in mean buildings first *obscurely* bred,

From thence did pass to open streets aspire. *Dryden.*

There live retir'd,

Content thyself to be *obscurely* good. *Adison's Cato.*

Let him go, pursued by silent wrath,

Meet unexpected daggers in his way,

And in some distant land *obscurely* die. *Irene.*

3. Not clearly; not plainly.

**OBSCURENESS.** *n. f.* [*obscuritas*, Latin.] *Obscurité*, Fr.]

**OBSCURITY.** *n. f.* [*obscuritas*, Latin.]

1. Darknes; want of light.

Lo! a day of darknes and *obscurity*, tribulation and an-

guish, upon the earth. *Esther xi. 8.*

Should Cynthia quit thee, Venus, and each star,

It would not form one thought dark as mine are:

I could lend them *obscurer* now, and say,

Out of myself there should be no more day. *Donne.*

2. Unnoticed state; privacy.

You are not for *obscurity* design'd,

But, like the sun, must cheer all human kind. *Dryd.*

3. Darknes of meaning.

Not to mention that *obscurer* that attends prophetic rap-

tures, which yet are so uneasy to be